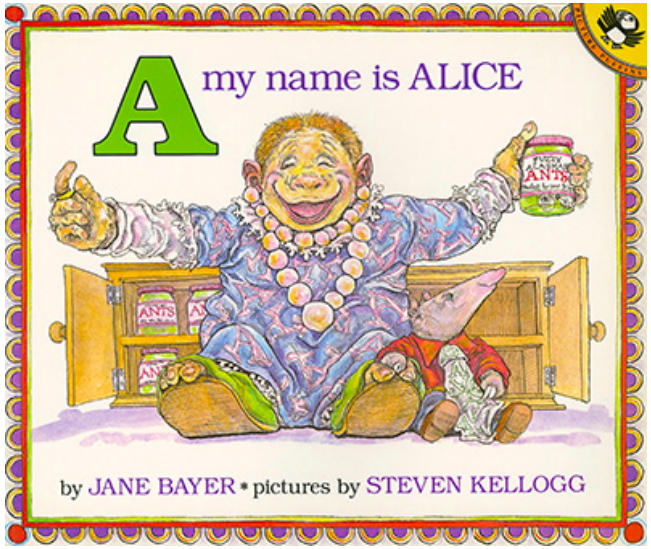
Back to School ~ First Day Activity
for Gifted Kindergarten Pull-Out Class



A, My Name is Alice: Gather kindergarten group on rug or carpet to read the book. In the story, *Alice* is an *ape*, married to *Alex*, an *anteater*. They come from *Alaska* and sell *ants*. On the following pages, pairs of animals introduce themselves, say where they're from, and share what they sell, with fantastic illustrations that match the letters of the alphabet. After reading the book, turn it into **an introductions game**. Have each student give his or her name, the type of animal they are (beginning with the same letter as their first name), and a food or hobby they like. The first student, for example, might say, "J, my name is Jennifer. I'm a jaguar, and I like to eat jam." Depending on your students and the size of the group, you can add an additional challenge: players must repeat what each previous player has said before adding to it.

After the first player, for example, the next student might say, “J, her name is Jennifer, she’s a jaguar, and she likes to eat jam,” and then adds his own: “C, my name is Carlos, I’m a cat, and I like to eat candy.” Introductions continue and everyone helps anyone who gets stuck. This activity is a great way for students to get to know one another and is also an informal assessment strategy for the teacher.

Alphabet books can spark many different thinking activities and games. Here is a good article about this!

See also:

Q is for Duck: Primary Research Project